anecut near Sri Kyamanahalli was constructed was to see that sufficient water may be supplied to the Holavanahalli tank also?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. G. Mehkri).**—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) As seen from the records there was no feeder channel to Holavanahalli tank from the Jayamangali river.

(*c*) No.

Mr. S. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA.—With reference to answer (*b*), if the raiyats ask for it, will a feeder channel be constructed from the Kyamanahalli *anecut*?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—There is already an *anecut*. There is no need for a channel also.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman).—Is not the tank getting water through the old channel?

Mr. G. RAMAIYA.—The channel comes up to the town. From there, up to the tank, it has been closed because there was a proposal to deviate the course of the channel. But somehow it has not been pursued.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Is the old channel existing?

Mr. G. RAMAIYA.—Yes.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Why has it been closed?

Mr. G. RAMAIYA.—Because of the slush it was causing all along, they did not want the channel.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Are the residents agreeable to the channel being opened up now?

Mr. G. RAMAIYA.—Yes, but its course may be deviated so that, as far possible, it may not run within the town.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—We shall enquire about it.

Requests from Municipalities for giving Elected Presidents.

Q.—34. **Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY (Madhugiri—Rural).**

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of municipalities in the State which had requested permission of the Government in the matter of having elected Presidents;

(*b*) the number of such applications which have been approved;

(*c*) the number of applications that were rejected;

(*d*) the number of times the members of the Mysore Municipal Council had submitted resolutions to permit them to have an elected President;

(*e*) the reason for non-compliance with such a request?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao).**—

(*a*) Twelve Municipal Councils (ten Town Municipal Councils and two Minor Municipal Councils).

(*b*) Seven.

(*c*) Four. One application is under correspondence.

(*d*) Six times.

(*e*) It is not considered expedient to grant the request at present.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—With reference to answer (*c*), which are the municipalities whose applications were rejected?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Mandya, Kolar, Malur and Jagalur.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—What are the reasons for rejecting them?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—It is not desirable to give out the reasons.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—Which is the case that is still under correspondence?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—That of the Shimoga Municipality.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—In the case of the Mysore City Municipality, what were the reasons for rejecting the application all the six times?

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman).—That has been answered already in (*e*).

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—Next to Bangalore, is not Mysore the most important City in the State?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—Is it not unjust to refuse to give a non-official

President to a municipality of such great importance?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—It is because of such great importance of the matter that it is difficult to reach a decision.

Mr. S. NANJIAH SETTY.—Is there not a single competent non-official in Mysore City who can discharge the duties of President?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Is it not a declared policy of the Government that the right of having elected Presidents should be given to such of the municipalities as apply for it?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—But the decision depends on the merits of each case.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Will it not be in conformity with the recommendation of the Reforms Committee to grant such applications?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—That committee has not recommended that the privilege must be given in every case.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Local self-governing institutions have to be managed by non-officials. What is the difficulty in allowing them to have elected Presidents?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—If the municipal councils concerned pass resolutions and submit them to Government, they will be considered.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—If that is so, why were they rejected in cases where such resolutions were passed?

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT and PUBLIC HEALTH (Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda).—In certain cases the experiment did not prove a success and so Government had to step in and set matters right. So when a request for an elected President is received, Government have got to consider the past record of work of the municipality, its present and prospective financial condition, the party organizations, etc., within the municipal council, how the public interests are likely to be served or affected by the proposed change, whether competent persons are available to shoulder the responsibility, etc.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Who are the officers who should report to Government whether proper persons are available or not?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—The Deputy Commissioner and some others.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Will not the President of the Municipality, who is the person most concerned, be consulted in the matter?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Certainly.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—If so, why should his recommendation not be accepted?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—It is not done in a routine manner. Even the official reports are not accepted as the final word. Government will have to consider each case in all its aspects.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—When a responsible body like a municipal council passes a resolution, why should not the Government accept it and why should there be any further consideration?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—It may not be possible to accept every resolution like that.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Is it a matter, then, that should depend upon the will and pleasure of the Government?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—It is not so. Ordinarily the resolution will be accepted. But in special cases it may have to be rejected for valid reasons.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—In that case, what is the value attaching to resolutions of the municipal councils?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is a different matter.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—In future at least, if a resolution asking for this privilege is passed unanimously, will the request be granted?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Generally speaking, if the resolution is unanimous, it will be accepted. But Government cannot surrender away their power of sanction in such cases.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—Have not the Government stated that it is a privilege that will be granted to all municipalities?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Subject to the condition already mentioned.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—The Shimoga Municipality wants the privilege of having its own elected President. Will the Government be pleased to grant the request of that municipality?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—In due course.

Mr. G. S. SUBBA RAO.—Has any request been received from the Madhugiri Municipality for an elected President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No such request has been received so far.

Mr. G. S. SUBBA RAO.—If any such request is made, will it be granted?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—It will be considered on its merits.

Mr. G. S. SUBBA RAO.—The Sub-Division Officer happens to be the President now. Being a touring officer he has to be away from the town for a good part of the month and consequently the municipal work suffers. Are the Government aware of it?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No.

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGIRAMIAH.—Is there any difficulty in enlarging the powers of the Vice-Presidents at least?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Under the Municipalities Act, the municipal councils themselves can do it.

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGIRAMIAH.—Is it not possible to transfer all the powers to the Vice-President, subject only to general control by the President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Unless both of them co-operate, the work will not go on smoothly.

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGIRAMIAH.—Is it not possible to amend the Municipalities Act to that effect?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—The member is at liberty to propose the amendment.

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGIRAMIAH.—Otherwise, there is very little scope for a Vice-President to do any useful work.

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Is it not true that according to Section 23 of the Municipalities Act, every municipality can have an elected President?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes, if the privilege has been conferred on it by Government.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—In what years did the Mysore Municipal Council pass resolutions on this subject?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Almost every year commencing from 1937.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—When exactly were the resolutions passed in 1941?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—In January and May.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Was not a resolution passed in September also?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—It has not yet been received by the Government.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—What was the date of the last order of Government rejecting the request of the municipality?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—28th May 1941.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—What opinion of his own did the President give in his covering letter with which the resolution was submitted to Government?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—You say "it is not considered expedient to grant the request at present." What are the elements which should go to make it expedient?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—I cannot say.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Then, what is the basis on which it is considered not expedient to grant the request now?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—The reason cannot be given.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—The Minister for Local Self-Government said just a while ago that the right of having an elected President cannot be given to municipalities wherein party spirit exists. Is any such reason operating in the case of the Mysore City Municipality?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—I am not prepared to give the reasons for the decision about the Mysore City Municipality.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Are there any reasons at all?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—If there were none, an elected President would have been given.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Mysore is a major city municipality like Bangalore, is it not?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—The reasons which prompted the Government to give the right of an elected President to Bangalore City Municipality should also apply to the case of the Mysore City Municipality, is it not?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—I am afraid the member is indulging in cross examination. He had better avail himself of the opportunity of discussing the entire question when the second resolution comes up, instead of at question time.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—I wish to find out the intentions of Government in this matter.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—I am sorry the member cannot be allowed to continue to ask such questions. He can put any other questions which will conform to the requirements of the rules about asking questions.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—You say it is not expedient to grant the request *at present*. How long is it going to remain so?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—I cannot say.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Can no time-limit be fixed for it?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No.

Mr. B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Then is it to go on till eternity?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Again, that is not a proper question to ask.

Mr. B. M. VENUGOPALA SETTY.—Did not the Kolar Municipality ask for a non-official President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. B. M. VENUGOPALA SETTY.—What are the reasons for not acceding to the request?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—I cannot say.

Mr. B. M. VENUGOPALA SETTY.—Is it not a fact that successive Dewans and Members of Council had promised to grant the privilege to the municipality and that party spirit also is absent there?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—If that is so, the request may be considered.

Mr. B. M. VENUGOPALA SETTY.—How many municipalities to which the privilege of non-official Presidents had been given, have now been superseded?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Notice.

Mr. R. DEVARAKONDAPPA.—Who generally are the Presidents of town municipalities now?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—In some places, the Amildars, and in some others the Revenue Sub-Division Officers.

Mr. R. DEVARAKONDAPPA.—Are they not all officers of the Revenue Department and so have to be on tour for 20 days in the month?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. R. DEVARAKONDAPPA.—If they are absent from headquarters for 20 days in the month, can they discharge their municipal duties satisfactorily?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. R. DEVARAKONDAPPA.—If municipal affairs should progress satisfactorily, is it not necessary that the President should be in daily personal touch with them?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is desirable, no doubt, but not always possible. Very few Presidents can maintain daily personal touch. Even the elected non-official Presidents may not be able to do that invariably.

Mr. R. DEVARAKONDAPPA.—At least, is it conceded that municipal affairs in many cases have come to be neglected on that account?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That may be the opinion of the member.

Mr. Alampalli NANJUNDA SETTY.—Though the two minor municipalities of Jagalur and Hosadurga have been given the privilege of having non-official Presidents, the Presidents are nominated. Why should they not be

allowed to be elected by the municipal councils?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Notice.

Mr. Alampalli NANJUNDA SETTY.—Is nomination of Presidents made on personal or communal considerations?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No. Past good work is the only criterion.

Mr. Alampalli NANJUNDA SETTY.—The population of Hosadurga is only 4,000 and there are 13 councillors. Among them, there were already 3 Vaisyas. Where was the need for nominating a fourth Vaisya?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—It shows that the Vaisya community is very important there.

Mr. Alampalli NANJUNDA SETTY.—Are not nominations meant to benefit as large a number of communities as possible?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No, not in municipal matters.

Mr. M. ABDUL AZIZ.—Under the Municipalities Act, have not certain powers been delegated to the Vice-Presidents, such as, dealing with matters like sanitation, sending returns and reports to Government, etc.?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. M. ABDUL AZIZ.—So, if an official President is on tour, cannot the Vice-President attend to all his duties? Have not some of them been doing it actually?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Was there not a non-official President for the Malur Municipality some time back?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—I think there was a nominated President.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—For how long?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Notice.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—After the last reconstitution of the municipal council, was not a request made to the Government for a non-official President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No such resolution has been received by Government.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—If it comes, will it be considered favourably?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is a hypothetical question.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Were there any special reasons for withdrawing the privilege once given?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—There must have been.

Mrs. H. S. MADHAVA RAO.—Are the Government aware that the Malur Municipality had addressed Government to the effect that they did not want a non-official President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Notice.

Mrs. H. S. MADHAVA RAO.—In all cases where resolutions asking for an elected President have been passed unanimously and the privilege is recommended by the local officers, have not the Government been granting the requests?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—As I said, in such cases, generally there will be no difficulty.

Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Have there not been competent non-official councillors in Mysore City, within the past 15 or 20 years, one of whom could have held the post of President?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Is it the opinion of Government that the Bangalore City Municipality has better claims for a non-official President than the Mysore City Municipality?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—A matter of opinion again!

Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Are the Government aware that His Highness the late Maharaja had proclaimed in 1924 that all self-governing institutions would be given complete autonomy?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Notice.

Ladies' Conferences.

Q.—10. **Sri. S. VEERAMMA** (Shimoga District—Women's Constituency).—

Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Ladies' Conferences held in the Shimoga District during the past ten years, which were either aided or encouraged by Government?